

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 EA-11

RSR-01 /189 W

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R 241920 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5275

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION MEMORANDUM ON AN OVERALL APPROACH
TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 1958; (B) PARIS 14196; (C) EC BRUSSELS 2761;
(D) EC BRUSSELS 2692

1. CUMMARY. THE EC COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
IS BEGINNING ITS REVIEW OF AMENDMENTS TO THE EC
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COMMISSION MEMORANDUM ON MTN. THE COMMISSION HAS JUST SUBMITTED PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ALONG LINES RECENTLY DESCRIBED TO US BY WELLENSTEIN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRENCH DELEGATION HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS THAT WOULD GO SOME DISTANCE TOWARD TIGHTENING UP THE COMMISSION PAPER IN A RESTRICTIVE MANNER. BUT WE ARE NOT YET INFORMED ABOUT SPECIFICS OF THE FRANCH POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL C, THE MAY 14-15 EC COUNCIL MEETING RESULTED IN A DECISION TO HAVE THE EC COMMISSION PROPOSE REVISIONS TO ITS MEMORANDUM ON THE OVERALL APPROACH TO THE MTN (TEXT IN REFTEL A). THE EC COMMITTEE OF PERM REPS IS HOLDING ITS FIRST DISCUSSION TODAY (MAY 24) ON THE BASIS OF AMENDMENTS JUST SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION. WHETHER THE PERM REPS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE SUFFICIENT PROGRESS SO THAT THE EC COUNCIL COULD HOPE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON JUNE 4-5 IS MOST UNCERTAIN AT THIS POINT. IF NOT, THE JUNE 25-26 COUNCIL SESSION WOULD BE THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY.

3. THE COMMISSION AMENDMENTS ARE ALONG LINES OF THOSE DESCRIBED TO US BY WELLENSTEIN FOLLOWING THE MAY 14-15 COUNCIL MEETING (REFTEL C). THEY INCLUDE A REVISION AND EXPANSION OF THE INTRODUCTORY SECTION PLUS A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SUBSTANTIVE SECTIONS.

4. APART FROM BEING MORE DETAILED IN RECALLING PERTINENT HISTORY, SUCH AS THE FEBRUARY 1972 US- EC DECLARATION, THE INTRUDUCTORY SECTION ON QUICK READING DOES NOT SUGGEST MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES THAT WOULD SERIOUSLY RESTRICT EC FREEDOM OF ACTION. BUT THE FORMULATIONS ARE INTERESTING ON TWO POINTS, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TRADE AND MONETARY AREAS, AND THE NON- NEGOTIABILITY OF THE CAP. ON THE FORMER QUESTION THE COMMISSION TEXT STATES: QUOTE IF THE DEFECTS OF THE MONETARY SYSTEM CAN NOT BE PUT RIGHT BY MEASURES IN THE COMMERCIAL FIELD, NEITHER CAN A POLICY OF WORLD TRADE LIBERALIZATION BE SUCCESSFULLY PURSUED UNLESS JOINT EFFORTS (FRENCH TEXT READS " PARALLEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EFFORTS") ARE MADE TO SET UP AN ADEQUATE MONETARY SYSTEM. UNQUOTE. ON AGRICULTURE, THE INTRODUCTORY SECTION CONCLUDES WITH THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH: QUOTE THE COMMUNITY, FAITHFUL TO THE GUIDE- LINES LAID DOWN FOR ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT AND TO ITS OWN SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, WILL TAKE PART IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS THAT THOSE ELEMENTS BASIC TO

ITS UNITY, I. E. THE CUSTOMS UNION AND ITS COMMON
POLICIES, IN PARTICULAR THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY,
CANNOT BE CALLED IN QUESTION. UNQUOTE

5. THE MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES THE COMMISSION PROPOSES
IN THE SUBSTANTIVE SECTIONS ALSO INVOLVE AGRICULTURE.
AGAIN, THERE IS A SPECIFIC STATEMENT THAT THE PRINCIPLES
OF THE CAP CANNOT BE CALLED INTO QUESTION. THERE ARE
ALSO REFERENCES ADDED TO THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE
EC' S AUTONOMY OF DECISION- MAKING IN THE AGRICULTURAL
FIELD. HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION HAS SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN
SOME FLEXIBILITY. THUS, IT HAS RETAINED THE REFERENCE,
IN PARA SEVEN OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTION, TO ADJUSTMENTS
IN CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF IMPORT SYSTEMS EVEN THOUGH
THE LANGUAGE IS QUALIFIED.

6. OUR CONTACTS IN THE UK AND THE FRG DELEGATIONS HAVE
TOLD US THAT, IN THEIR OPINION, THEIR GOVERNMENTS OUGHT
TO BE ABLE TO GO ALONG WITH MOST OF THE COMMISSIONS'
PROPOSALS. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRENCH
DELEGATION HAS RECEIVED INSTRUC
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ECBRU02899
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730554/aaaajtjz.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 EC BRUSSELS 1958, 73 PARIS 14196, 73 EC BRUSSELS 2761, 73 EC BRUSSELS 2692
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980305
Subject: EC COMMISSION MEMORANDUM ON AN OVERALL APPROACH TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, EEC
To: BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG

SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005